

## DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER  
COMMISSIONER REDFORD  
COMMISSIONER SMITH  
COMMISSION SECRETARY  
LEGAL  
WORKING FILE**

**FROM: BRYAN LANSPERY**

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 16, 2011**

**RE: APPROPRIATE DISPOSITION OF SO<sub>2</sub> EMISSION PROCEEDS FOR  
ENERGY EDUCATION PROPOSAL; CASE NO. IPC-E-08-11,  
ORDER NO. 30760**

In Order Nos. 30529 and 30577 from Case No. IPC-E-07-18, the Commission reserved \$500,000 from over \$16 million in SO<sub>2</sub> credit revenues received by Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power) for potential funding of energy education programs. A new docket was initiated (Case No. IPC-E-08-11) to develop a specific proposal on how to appropriate the funds. Through the collaborative process, Idaho Power developed a three-part proposal: 1) expand the scope and number of mini-home audits for students and have more in-depth follow-up in the classroom; 2) have students assist in energy audits of school facilities and have students make recommendations for implementing energy efficiency measures; and 3) add two additional solar construction projects to its "Solar4Schools" program. With the initial funding, the program would run for two years. A second proposal was jointly submitted by the Office of Energy Resources (OER) and the Idaho Department of Education (DOE). Several parties, most notably the Idaho Energy Education Project (IEEP), requested an advisory board be formed to assist in implementation of the proposal.

The Commission ultimately approved a modified version of Idaho Power's proposal. The third component of the proposal as described above was rejected, and the estimated funds were appropriated to the remaining components. Order No. 30760 provided specific directives regarding the implementation of the project, namely that an advisory board would be established (the cost of which would be paid through interest gained on the original funding amount, and not

exceed \$12,500), and that a final report be submitted after the two year timeframe. The final report would address cost-effectiveness of the program and potential for continuing or expanding the program.

On September 7, 2011, Idaho Power submitted its Compliance Report on the project to the Commission. Staff has reviewed the Compliance Report (Report) in relation to prior Commission orders to verify that Idaho Power has appropriately fulfilled the guidelines set forth by the Commission. According to the Report, Idaho Power formed an advisory committee composed of members from the public, IEEP, OER, DOE, Staff and educators. The cost of advisory meetings fell well within the guidelines of the Commission (around \$7,000 total). The advisory group actively participated in program development and refinement, along with compiling the final Report.

The Report provides details of the two student programs: (1) Energy Wise Program offered to elementary students that focused on energy education and (2) Students for Energy Efficiency Program (SEE), where high school students performed energy audits of school facilities. The Report shows for the two years nearly 7,200 students from 99 schools participated in the Energy Wise Program throughout Idaho Power's service territory, with estimated annual savings of 1.7 million kWh (and natural gas savings of 39,124 therms). 423 students from 30 schools participated in SEE, with estimated potential savings of 2.2 million kWh.

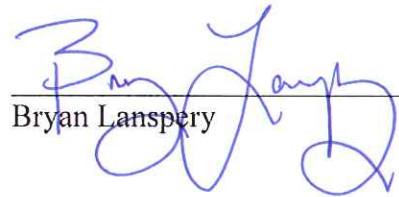
Though IEEP and several public comments in the most recent SO<sub>2</sub> sales allowance proceeding (Case No. IPC-E-10-20) voiced support for continuing the program, Idaho Power does not propose doing so at this time. It has indicated that the program may be adopted by the Center for Advanced Energy Studies, Energy Efficiency Research Institute (CAES EERI), Idaho Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics consortium (iSTEM), or some other entity. Should IPC wish to continue the program in the future, Staff would expect it to file a new docket to seek funding approval from the Commission.

The remaining balance (nearly \$100,000) will be used to purchase additional Energy Wise classroom kits for the 2011-2012 school year, and two additional SEE-related kits for iSTEM lending libraries in Meridian and Twin Falls. This decision was based on the input of the advisory group.

Staff believes the Compliance Report sufficiently details the results of Idaho Power's energy education endeavor, and fulfills the directives set forth in Commission Order No. 30760. Staff recommends acceptance of the filing by the Commission.

### **COMMISSION DECISION**

Does the Commission wish to accept the Compliance Report filed by Idaho Power Company?

  
Bryan Lanspery

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